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POLISH CONSUMER GOODS' PRODUCTION UP

IMPORTANCE OF SCRAP MATERIAL STRESSED -- Gazeta Ludowa, No 21, 26 Jan 49

One of the most important tasks of the Polish economy at the present time is to supply the market not only with well-known raw materials such as wool or flax but also with scrap material which could be reclaimed.

The usual scrap includes old clothes, broken china, newspapers, etc. Industrial scrap consists of waste from bookbinders and semimanufactures, bones from canning factories, etc.

The Central Office of Scrap Utilization with regional branches in all wojewodztwo cities is in charge of the systematic handling of scrap. Bones are one of the scrap materials most in demand. After the fat has been separated by chemical process, bones supply glycerine, stearin, and olein. The tallow is used in the manufacture of soap and lubricants. Bones are also used in the manufacture of meal for fowl and animals, for glue, and fertilizer. Old rags, wastepaper, electric bulbs, broken glass, old tires, bristles, and cork are also important. The Regional Office in Warsaw was very active in the collection of scrap. In January 1948 it collected 700 tons of scrap and in December of the same year the amount increased to 1,600 tons.

In 1948 the Regional Branch of the Warsaw Wojewodztwo supplied industry with 12,972,132 kilograms of scrap worth 130 million zlotys, including 7,850 tons of wastepaper worth 4 million zlotys, 1,120 tons of rags worth 32 million zlotys, 1,800 tons of broken glass worth 7 million zlotys, and 400 tons of bones worth 3 million zlotys.

Scrap collected and stored is not wasted or spoiled but is a source of industrial raw material as well as an export item. In 1948, 170 tons of broken glass were exported to Sweden.

SUGAR PRODUCTION INCREASES -- Rzeczpospolita, No 25, 26 Jan 49

The unusual development of the sugar industry in the 4 years of our independence has exceeded expectations. Already in 1947, 495,900 tons of sugar were

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produced which is more than the 1938 production. The production of 624,000 tons in 1948 exceeded that of the last prewar season by 133,400 tons.

Only the remarkable speed of reconstruction and the reconditioning of the factories acquired in the western areas made this development possible.

In the 1945-1946 season most of the factories were rebuilt and put in operation, including those in Swidnica, Odmuchowo, Raciborz, Sulejow, and Zabkowice. In 1946-1947, 16 additional factories were activated, 71 factories were operating in 1946 and 76 in 1947. In 1948 two new factories were opened in Gryfice and Kluczewo.

Simultaneously, sugar beet production was increased so that in 4 years the raw material source for the sugar industry was entirely rehabilitated. In the period between 1934-1938 the estimated area under sugar beet cultivation in Poland of the present-day boundaries was 225,000 hectares yielding a harvest of over 25 million quintals. In 1946, contracts for sugar beet harvests covered 169,600 hectares; in 1947 this increased to 211,300 hectares, and in 1948 it was more than 220,000 hectares. The yield was 29,800,000 quintals in 1946, 34,900,000 in 1947, and more than 40 million in 1948.

This increase in production will be of great importance. First of all, per-capita consumption will increase. In the period between wars, Poland's per-capita consumption of sugar was only 12 kilograms, the smallest in Europe. Poland is now approaching the norm of the Western nations' prewar per-capita consumption. In 1947-1948, per-capita consumption in Poland reached 14.7 kilograms and it is expected to reach 17 kilograms in 1949. On the basis of this increased production, it is estimated that the 1956 per-capita consumption will reach 25 kilograms.

With the domestic market completely satisfied, a larger quantity can be diverted to export. Together with coal and cement, sugar will become one of the basic articles of export.

The present condition of the international sugar market is unusually favorable for the expansion of Poland's export of sugar since the countries which before the war dominated the sugar market have not yet rehabilitated their sugar industry and are not active producers supplying the market.

In 1947 Poland exported several thousand tons of sugar more than in the best prewar years. The 1948 plan estimated 350,000 tons for domestic consumption and 140,000 for export. The successful 1948 season would indicate an increase in export in 1949. Poland exports sugar to the Soviet Union, Great Britain, Italy, France, and the Near and Middle East.

In the 4 years of independence, Poland has become one of the most important exporters of sugar in Europe and 1949 will further strengthen her position in the international market.

SALT INDUSTRY EXCEEDS PRODUCTION -- Gazeta Ludowa, No 20, 25 Jan 49

The Enterprises of the Polish Salt Monopoly produced more than 277,000 tons of table salt in 1948, which is 131 percent of planned production.

VINEGAR PRODUCTION -- Gazeta Ludowa, No 21, 26 Jan 49

At present there are in Poland 56 vinegar factories in operation and three in the process of rebuilding. There are 16 state, 15 cooperative, and 25 private establishments. Total production of the industry in 1948 was 23,255,790 liters of 6 percent vinegar. State establishments produced 9,427,714 liters, cooperatives 8,796,819, private industry 5,023,253.

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In December 1948 the Tobacco Monopoly showed a production of 1,515,900,000 cigarettes (which includes 1,480,463,000 plain-end cigarettes), 1,709,000 cigars, 77,000 kilograms of pipe tobacco, and over 6,000 kilograms of snuff.

In December also, seven cigarette manufacturing machines were imported from Czechoslovakia. Machines received from Czechoslovakia totaled 36 for plain-end cigarettes and 19 other machines; 17 machines were received from the US.

TEXTILE MACHINES RECOVERED -- Zycie Warszawy, No 17, 18 Jan 49

Two thousand textile machines of various makes were salvaged from the destroyed factories in Dolny Slask. Also recovered were 250 tons of spare parts which are not as yet being manufactured in Poland.

ARTIFICIAL LEATHER AND LINOLEUM PRODUCED -- Rzeczpospolita, No 12, 13 Jan 49

Recently three textile factories have begun to manufacture artificial leather called "igelit" which is made from cotton or linen fabric covered with plastic. A 2-million-square-meter production of "igelit" is expected during 1949, to be used in manufacturing portfolios, belts, bookbindings, etc.

During 1949 the linoleum industry will also be developed; up to the present time, all linoleum had to be imported. Factories have started to manufacture a high-grade, crackproof, flexible, water-and-acid-resistant linoleum. The latter quality is considered especially important.

The first supply of this new linoleum was purchased by the Polish State Railways for use as floor covering in passenger coaches. After hospitals, convalescent homes, and chemical laboratories have been supplied, the linoleum will then be sold on the market.

HIDES AND LEATHER PRODUCTION IN 1948 -- Gazeta Ludowa, No 9, 12 Jan 49

The 1948 production plan for the State Leather Industry was completed 120 percent according to value. Total value of production reached 257 percent as compared with 1946 production and 159 percent as compared with 1947.

Raw hide production exceeded the plan by 4,600 tons, and the shoe manufacture by 1,300,000 pairs of shoes, 990,600 pairs of which were leather.

In the tanning industry, labor output in the last quarter of 1948 exceeded prewar figures -- 27 kilograms of raw material per man-day, 10.1 kilograms in 1946, and 13.7 kilograms in 1947.

In the shoe manufacturing industry, labor output in 1946 was 1.8 pairs per man-day, and reached 3.45 pairs by the end of 1948.

PIGSKIN USES INCREASED -- Rzeczpospolita, No 13, 14 Jan 49

The pigskin industry in Poland was highly developed during 1948, reaching a production of 288,000 square meters. Tanning of pigskin was begun the latter part of 1947, with a production of only 7,300 square meters. With the development of this industry, the import of leather will be decreased. This leather will be used in the manufacture of shoes, luggage, portfolios, purses, bags, belts, etc.

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NEW COURSES OFFERED AT TRADE SCHOOLS -- Rzeczpospolita, No 19, 20 Jan. 49

Attendance at leather-industry trade schools increased in 1948 from 680 to 1,050. Twenty-eight courses were organized during the year in order to supply the industry with qualified personnel in a short time.

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